

Hope Falls

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Summary: Several thoughts had passed through his mind as he felt his consciousness fade. He had wondered if this was what his grandpa Rome felt when he dissolved... Feliciano isn't feeling like himself anymore. As much as tries to deny it, he knows that something inside of him is changing. Luciano is just tired of it all. He is tired of simply existing.

Hope Falls

Feliciano gasped as he stared into the water's reflection and saw a blood covered version of himself with vacant garnet-toned eyes.

"L-Ludwig," he called, "come look at this!"

"What is it now?" Ludwig sounded exasperated as he walked up.

"It's my reflection."

There was a heavy sigh from behind him and Feliciano could tell that he was massaging the bridge of his nose. "Don't tell me that you're falling for yourself or something."

Feliciano fought the urge to throw a glare over his shoulder at his friend. Once he managed to suppress his real emotions, he gave a forced grin. "Now you're being silly Luddy. I worry more about some creature trying to coax me into their world while wearing you as a suit." The smile fell slightly. "But seriously, look."

Ludwig crowded down and looked over Feliciano's shoulder.

"Well?" Feliciano asked after a moment's silence.

"I see nothing out of the ordinary. It's just us. What am I supposed to be seeing?"

"My reflection." Feliciano rolled his eyes. "It's covered in blood."

Ludwig squinted before frowning. "I don't see it, Feli." He stared hard at Feliciano with narrowed eyes. "Maybe it's too soon for you to be training."

Feliciano frowned and looked back at the water. He saw that his reflection was perfectly normal.

No blood.

No garnet eyes.

Just his and Ludwig's reflections rippling with the water.

Though Feliciano wouldn't truly say that his reflection was normal. He had a stubborn curl sticking up and nothing he did made it lie flat. His honey-amber eyes had deep, dark circles hanging beneath them and no matter how much he slept, he couldn't lessen them.

He sighed. "Maybe you're right..." He replied slowly, "still not sleeping my best."

Nearly a week before, Feliciano had gotten tangled in a bunch of seaweed and had nearly drowned. He hadn't felt such terror before and he hoped he never had to feel it again. Several thoughts had passed through his mind as he felt his consciousness fade. He had wondered if this was what his grandpa Rome felt when he dissolved. He'd wondered if this was how Gilbert felt every day since he lacked his status as a nation...

After that day, all of his fellow nations had become overbearingly protective of him and Feliciano was about ready to rip out his own hair. He hadn't realized that he hated being fussed over. He hated that everyone practically smothered him with their concerns.

It wasn't like he was truly in danger of dying. His country was still strong and functioning so he would have just simply went into a state of suspended animation until his lungs expelled the water. Nothing to really fuss over.

But...

Then again, after that day, Feliciano hadn't quite felt like himself. He'd catch glimpses of his reflection from the corner of his eye and almost always, his reflection would be injured in some sort of way. This was just the first time Feliciano had ever saw his reflection full on.

He stared hard into the water, wondering what it all meant. He didn't know who he would be able to discuss this with without sounding insane.

"Maybe Arthur will know how to ease dreams." Ludwig said, breaking Feliciano's thoughts. "Want me to give him a call?"

"No need..." Feliciano splashed water over his face, tensing momentarily as his mind flashed back to how it had felt to drown. He shook his head of the thought. He didn't want to deal with that memory at the moment. "I think that I'll go over to Kiku's for a siesta..."

"Want me to walk you?"

"No." Feliciano said abruptly. He needed a moment alone to gather his thoughts and possibly form a plan on figuring out what his altered reflection meant. "Thank you though..."

He dusted off his pants and walked off with no intentions of going to Kiku's place.

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><p>AN: Rose Rene here, I hope you enjoyed the first chapter of _Hope Falls. _This story is a massive work-in-progress but I plan on working hard on it.**

End
file.